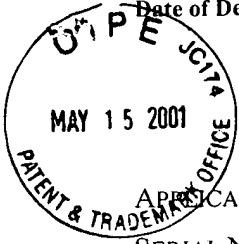


Express Mail Label No.: EF371222088US

Date of Deposit: May 15, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 15966-672 (CURA-172)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Vernet, et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/783,436

EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned

FILING DATE: February 14, 2001

ART UNIT: Not Yet Assigned

FOR: NOVEL POLYPEPTIDES AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

May 15, 2001  
Boston, Massachusetts

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make of record the documents listed on the attached modified Form PTO-1449, as well as copies of the listed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee or certification is believed required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims, and signs the enclosed form PTO-1449 to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application.

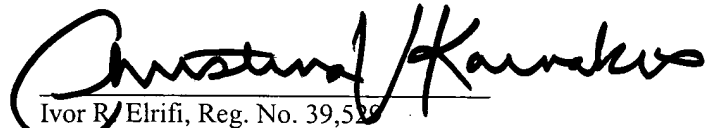
By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that: (1) a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist; (2) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and (3) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

APPLICANTS: Vernet, et al.  
U.S.S.N.: 09/783,436

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his/her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information. An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-672 (CURA-172).

Respectfully submitted,



Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,528  
Christina V. Karnakis, Reg. No. 45,899  
Attorneys for Applicant  
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,  
GLOVSKY and POPEO, P.C.  
One Financial Center  
Boston, Massachusetts 02111  
Tel: (617) 542-6000  
Fax: (617) 542-2241

TRA 1516837v1